



The HAL Hotline

Department of History, Arts and Libraries • Winter 2003 • Volume II • Issue IIII

creating COOL



Linking Culture, Community, and the Economy

MCACA's Ninth Annual Meeting Features Best-Selling Author Richard Florida



Dr. Richard Florida, author of *The Rise of the Creative Class and How It's Transforming Work, Leisure, Community and Everyday Life*, will be the featured speaker at the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) annual meeting, a one-day conference titled "Creating Cool: Linking Culture, Community and the Economy."

Hosted by MCACA, the Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services and Governor Jennifer Granholm's office, the conference takes place Thursday, Dec. 11, at the Lansing Center. The event is designed to bring

together cultural, economic development, civic and government leaders who seek creative solutions to community challenges.

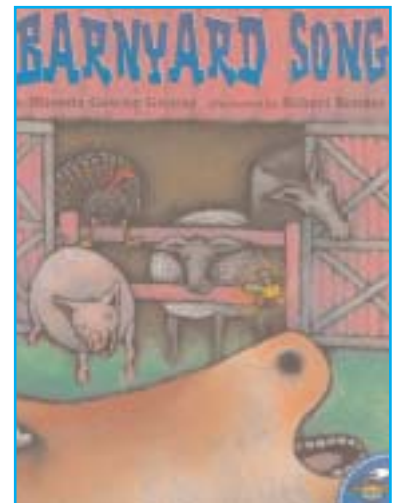
"The marriage of the arts and culture with economic development is a key factor in revitalizing cities," Governor Granholm said. "This event is part of the dialogue I want to have with Michigan communities about how we create cool cities that have hot jobs and economic opportunities for younger workers. Those workers are critical to our state's future economic security."

The first such gathering of its kind, the conference is part of the governor's "cool cities" initiative. Granholm will open the conference with introductory remarks. Other speakers include Dr. William Anderson, director of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries, and David Hollister, director of the Department of Consumer and Industry Services.

"Arts and cultural organizations play such a vital role in the well-being of their communities that this event is a key component to state efforts to attract and retain a creative class of workers," said Dr. Anderson. "We want to ensure that arts and cultural representatives are at the table as community leaders envision their communities' future development."

"Participants will be able to take advantage of presentations that showcase how arts and culture can be used creatively to stimulate and enhance economic development at the local level," Hollister added. "I often refer to Dr. Florida's work when I speak to communities about urban revitalization and consider his participation in our conference a real coup for the people of Michigan."

For more information about the conference, visit www.michigan.gov/hal or call Get Real! Communications at (734) 669-4360.



Barnyard Song Voted Official Book for Michigan Reads! One State, One Preschool Book Program

The Library of Michigan recently announced *Barnyard Song* by Rhonda Gowler Greene as the featured title for the Michigan Reads! One State, One Preschool Book program, slated for April 2004. The favorite among five titles vying for the top spot in an online poll, "Barnyard Song" received 1,056 out of a total 2,690 votes.

"The public had five very worthy books to choose from, and *Barnyard Song* is an excellent choice – a fun and entertaining story that really engages young minds," said State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau. "Our goal is to get as many little Michiganders as possible mooing and cock-a-doodle-doo-ing along with the book in April."



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Barnyard Song, a School Library Journal Best Book of 1997, tells the humorous story of what happens to the farm animals' usual "song" when the animals catch the flu. Author Rhonda Gowler Greene is a resident of West Bloomfield, Mich.

Governor Jennifer Granholm serves as honorary chair of the Michigan Reads! program, which is co-sponsored by the Michigan Center for the Book and the Library of Michigan in cooperation with libraries around the state.

"By focusing on a children's book and encouraging a collective reading experience, we hope to highlight the importance of reading to children from the earliest age and the value of families reading together," said Brandau. "We're also aiming to raise awareness of public libraries as a vital learning resource for the quality books, programs and services that foster success in reading and school."

To learn about statewide or local events or partnering and sponsorship opportunities, contact michiganreads@michigan.gov. For more information about the Michigan Reads! program, please visit www.michigan.gov/hal.

Library of Michigan Celebrates the Opening of Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room

The Library of Michigan recently celebrated the completion and official opening of the new Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room. Approximately 200 guests, including Lt. Gov. John D. Cherry and other dignitaries, helped commemorate the occasion — more than 10 years in the making — at an inaugural celebration hosted by the Library of Michigan Foundation.

Designed and constructed entirely with private funding, the room was named in tribute to Michigan's first woman lieutenant governor, Martha W. Griffiths, in recognition of her distinguished career and lifelong commitment to libraries.

"On behalf of Governor Jennifer Granholm and the state of Michigan, I congratulate the Library of Michigan for its tremendous efforts to honor a true Michigan legend," said Lt. Gov. Cherry. "I am very honored to help dedicate this Michigan Rare Book Room, which will house our state's history, folklore and legend, in her name."

"We couldn't have reached this milestone without the help of our employees, our donors and library supporters such as the room's namesake," said State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau. "What a fitting way for the Library of Michigan to celebrate 175 years of serving Michigan residents — to give people a closer look at our state's history by providing access to the unique treasures in our collection."

The Library of Michigan's Rare Book collection is comprised of over 17,000 volumes, including printed books, maps, letters, prints and other formats covering subject matter such as natural history, law, angling, travel and exploration, Native Americans and Michigan.

The Library of Michigan Foundation has provided the funding for the design and construction of the room, which is located on the fourth floor of the Library of Michigan. Also, through the creation of a special endowment fund, the foundation will support the conservation and preservation of rare materials, as well as the future acquisition of additional materials.

State Librarian Brandau said the new reading room and state-of-the-art storage complex are very important additions because they provide the necessary environmental conditions and security for the rare materials. This room will also create an inviting and suitable place for these important research materials to be used by the citizens of Michigan, said Brandau.



Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room dedication wall in vestibule entry to the reading room



Rep. Fran Amos and Rep. John Stakoe view exhibits of some of the treasures in the Library of Michigan's rare book collection.



Guests tour the new rare book reading room.

Museum Hosts Statehood Day Celebration

In recognition of Michigan's 167th "birthday," the Michigan Historical Museum is hosting a Statehood Day celebration on Jan. 25, 2004.

The day's events begin with the second annual Statehood Day Brunch and Silent Auction. Guests enjoy an 1830s-style brunch and the opportunity to bid on items donated by local businesses. Prepaid reservations (\$40 per person) are required; proceeds benefit the award-winning education programs of the Michigan Historical Museum. Contact Jo Anne Arasim for more information at (517) 373-1905 or arasimj@michigan.gov.

At 1 p.m., museum doors open for a free, public celebration of Michigan statehood. There will be free state flags for the first 100 families, live period music, crafts, activities and more. Visit www.michiganhistory.org for more information.



Top: The Friends of Michigan History sponsored a silent auction in support of museum education programs at the 2003 Statehood Day.

Bottom: Olde Michigan Ruff Water String Band performed at the 2003 Statehood Day program.

Step Into Michigan's Past with Heritage Workshops at the Museum

If you like history with a hands-on approach, explore the Michigan Historical Museum's heritage workshops. These workshops, designed for adults, offer instruction in a variety of handicraft and other traditions.

Registrations are still being accepted for the Jan. 10 session on making your own snowshoes and the Jan. 11 session on piece quilting. Other workshops look at how to make an atlal, how to preserve your family treasures and other topics from our Michigan heritage. Fees for most heritage workshops include supplies. For more information on these and other heritage workshops, contact Jo Anne Arasim at (517) 373-1905 or arasimj@michigan.gov.

Shop for Holiday Gifts at the Michigan Historical Museum Store!

Looking for unique holiday gift ideas? The store at the Michigan Historical Museum offers a wide variety of items related to the history of Michigan, the region and the nation.

Popular products include:

- Lighthouse figurines, prints and books
- Rocks and minerals from Michigan, including hand-crafted jewelry of Chlorastrolite (Isle Royale Greenstone) and Petoskey Stone — both official state symbols
- *Michigan History* magazine and related products
- Books for adults and children on a wide range of Michigan topics

Museum store hours:

Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m.

For more information or assistance with gift ideas, please call the store at (517) 373-1375. We'll help you find the perfect present!

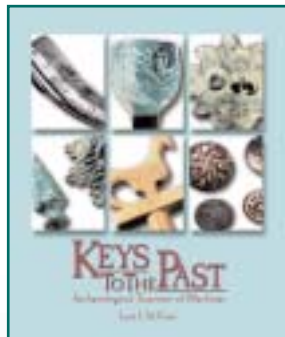
New Book Packed with Photos of Mackinac's Archaeological Treasures Available for the Holidays

It was 1959 when archaeologists first put spade to soil at Colonial Michilimackinac. They have returned every year, and a National Historic Landmark, reconstructed military fort and trading outpost have grown based on their work.

Now Dr. Lynn Evans, curator of archaeology for Mackinac State Historic Parks, has compiled that 40-plus years of work into a beautiful publication titled *Keys to the Past*. Dr. Evans has hand-selected the most intriguing and unique artifacts discovered in the Straits of Mackinac and shares them in this rich, full-color edition.

Mackinac Associates sponsored the *Keys to the Past* project to commemorate its 20th anniversary. Mackinac enthusiasts will consider the book a "must-have" addition to their library.

Keys to the Past can be purchased for \$22.95 in soft cover and \$29.95 hardbound. Order forms are available online at www.MackinacParks.com, or call (231) 436-4100. Mackinac Associates save 15 percent off the regular retail price.



Mackinac State Historic Parks Wins Awards from Historical Society of Michigan for Education Outreach Program and New Book

The Historical Society of Michigan recently presented Mackinac State Historic Parks (MSHP) with two prestigious Awards of Merit, the highest award presented by the state's official historical society and oldest cultural organization.

MSHP received an Award of Merit for Historical Programs for its outstanding educational programs. MSHP provides schools, teachers and students with a variety of programs and materials to create memorable learning experiences.

Each winter while MSHP historic sites are closed, teams of historic interpreters travel across the state to bring the historical

and natural experiences of Mackinac into Michigan classrooms. Since 1988, more than 125,000 Michigan students have participated in these hands-on presentations, dressing up and trading furs with British Redcoats, French voyageurs and Native Americans and learning how the Great Lakes formed and how the Native Americans lived before and after European contact.

In the spring and fall while the historic sites are open, nearly 50,000 students every year take class trips to Fort Mackinac, Colonial Michilimackinac and Historic Mill Creek, where they experience the history and natural surroundings they've studied in the classroom. MSHP has developed special evening and overnight programs that allow groups of students to live the colonial life at Colonial Michilimackinac and the 19th-century military life at Fort Mackinac. Students march and perform sentry duty at Fort Mackinac, fetch water from Lake Michigan and sleep on straw tick mattresses at Colonial Michilimackinac.

Year-round, MSHP provides resources for teachers. Lesson plans, readings, music, games and more are available on the MSHP Web site (www.MackinacParks.com). MSHP loans "artifact boxes" to educators, and sells very affordably priced history videos and slide presentations.

An Award of Merit for Historical Publications also went to one of MSHP's latest books, *A Desirable Station: Soldier Life at Fort Mackinac, 1867-1895*. Authored by MSHP Director Phil Porter, the book tells the story of more than 1,000 soldiers from around the world who lived and loved, worked and played, won honors and served jail time, ate, slept and died at Fort Mackinac on Mackinac Island.

A Desirable Station, illustrated with 70 images from the Mackinac Island State Park Commission collection, is available in bookstores and at all MSHP museum stores and can be ordered by calling (231) 436-4100 or by printing an order form at www.MackinacParks.com.

MSHP has a long tradition of writing for publication, with over 60 titles on its reading list. Publishing is one avenue MSHP takes to fulfill its mission of presenting the historic and natural resources of Mackinac to the public.



A student enjoys one of Mackinac State Historic Parks' many educational programs.

Award-winning Michigan History for Kids Now Available by Subscription

Just in time for the holiday season, *Michigan History for Kids* is now available as a subscription-based magazine. Introduced in 2001 and sent to all fourth-graders in the state of Michigan, *Michigan History for Kids* helps young readers understand the fascinating past of the Great Lakes State.

"Since the first issue of *Michigan History for Kids* was introduced, teachers and students alike have told us how much they love the colorful, fun way we present Michigan's past," says editor Roger Rosentreter. "We thought every child should have access to such a fantastic learning tool."

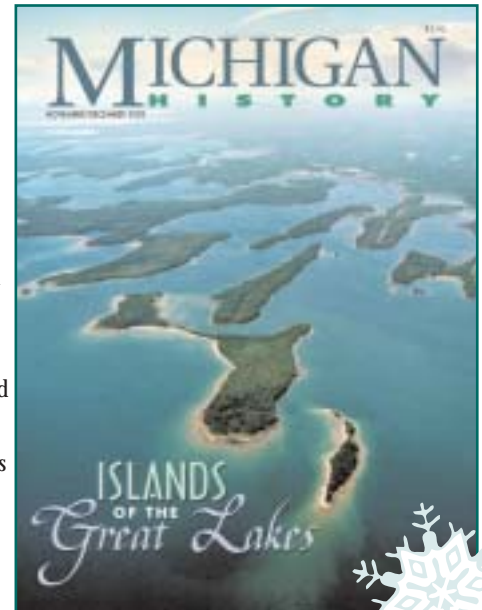
Each colorful, 24-page issue is filled with illustrated stories and activities and is written at a fourth-grade reading level. Willie Wolverine, a fun, lovable character, leads children through the magazine and delivers interesting Michigan history facts along the way.

Subscriptions begin with the spring 2004 issue, which will be mailed in early January. Gift subscriptions will be announced with a colorful card sent to the receiver. A one-year subscription consists of four issues and costs \$11.95. A two-year subscription consists of eight issues and costs \$21.95. Schools receive a discount on classroom subscriptions. To subscribe or order a gift subscription to *Michigan History for Kids* call *Michigan History* at (800) 366-3703. Or you can visit www.michiganhistory-magazine.com.



Michigan History Magazine Highlights Islands of the Great Lakes

From the awe-inspiring wilderness and captivating wildlife of Isle Royale to the manicured gardens and Alfred Kahn-designed building of Belle Isle, Great Lakes islands have played a notable, but often forgotten, role in Michigan's past.



The November/December 2003 issue of *Michigan History* magazine features a variety of stories explaining what makes these islands so alluring.

Highlights include stories about an island that lies in the path of Michigan's boundary with Ohio, as well as a plan to link the Upper and Lower Peninsulas via a series of roads and bridges that crossed three islands, including Mackinac.

Other articles feature James Jesse Strang, whose Beaver Island kingdom created a national sensation that involved the president of the United States; how one of America's most successful communal societies suffered repeated maritime disasters from their High Island home; and how residents of Grosse Ile participated in a ground-breaking study that altered the way we raise our children.

Elsewhere in this expanded issue are recollections from readers about why Michigan's Great Lakes islands have provided them with so many memorable moments.

Finally, pictorials about Detroit's Belle Isle and Mackinac Island illustrate why these two islands remain among Michigan's most recognizable vacation destinations.

Readers can find out more about selected *Michigan History* topics on the magazine's Web site, www.michiganhistory-magazine.com. Online features from this issue include lists of identified Michigan islands, island-related books to read and a collection of island stories.

HAL Calendar of Events



Digging Up Controversy: The Michigan Relics

Appearing through August 15

Michigan Historical Museum, Special Exhibit Gallery

Between 1890 and 1920, Michigan was the site of archaeological discoveries of mysterious clay, stone and copper artifacts. Known as the Michigan Relics, the artifacts bore intriguing images and strange writing. These discoveries ignited a debate that continues to this day. The artifacts and the arguments surrounding them have come to downtown Lansing, and both are spotlighted in this special exhibit. Although professional archaeologists of the era dismissed the Michigan Relics as fakes, believers saw—and continue to see—the relics as evidence of an ancient people in Michigan. *Digging Up Controversy* offers the public its first peek at the collection in more than 70 years and encourages visitors to make up their own minds as they view the relics and learn how archaeologists determine what is real and what is fake.

Abrams Genealogy Series: Polish Genealogy

Saturday, December 6 at 9:30 a.m.

Forum, first floor, Library of Michigan

Part of a series of sessions, presented by the Library of Michigan, that focus on the resources available in the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection. The registration fee is \$10 per session. This session will discuss the Library of Michigan's Polish resources and strategies for locating Polish-American resources. For more information call (517) 373-1300.

Puppets, Dolls and Plays

Saturday, December 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Michigan Historical Museum

Michigan history and art combine to help Brownies earn their Puppets, Dolls and Plays Try It! The girls will create a Michigan history play and perform it as a puppet show. The fee is \$20 per child (includes handouts, certificate, Try-It, lunch and snack) and \$10 per chaperone (includes handouts, certificate, lunch and snack). Pre-registration is required. Call (517) 241-4060, or see the 2003-2004.

Learning More @ the Library of Michigan:

AncestryPlus

Saturday, December 13 at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, December 17 at 3 p.m.

Lake Erie Training Center, first floor, Library of Michigan

Part of a series of free sessions, presented by the Library of Michigan, that focus on a variety of subject areas relating to genealogy and Michigan. This session covers tips for how to best search the thousands of databases and millions of names included on AncestryPlus, a large online genealogy resource. To register, call (517) 373-1300.

2003-2004 Heritage Workshops and Special Events Series: Snow Stepping

Saturday, January 10 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Michigan Historical Museum

Part of the Michigan Historical Museum's 2003-2004 heritage workshops and special events series, which highlight Michigan handicraft and other traditions and offer adults a truly hands-on approach to discovering Michigan history. In this full-day workshop, participants create their own drift-buster snowshoes with neoprene lacings, using traditional designs. The fee is \$160 (includes supplies), and pre-registration is required. Call (517) 373-1905.

2003-2004 Heritage Workshops and Special Events Series: Piece On Earth

Sunday, January 11 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Michigan Historical Museum

Learn the basic techniques in hand piecing and sewing a pieced quilt square. You'll also view pieced quilts from the museum's collection. The fee is \$35 (includes supplies), and pre-registration is required. Call (517) 373-1905.



December-February

Stitch In Time

Saturday, January 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Michigan Historical Museum

Junior Girl Scouts earn their Yarn and Fabric Arts badge as they learn about our handicraft traditions. The girls will create a simple loom for weaving, tighten up their knot-tying skills and learn the basics of embroidery. The fee is \$20 per child (includes handouts, certificate, badge, lunch and snack) and \$10 per chaperone (includes handouts, certificate, lunch and snack). Pre-registration is required. Call (517) 241-4060.

Statehood Day Branch and Celebration

Sunday, January 25
Michigan Historical Museum

Join the museum in celebrating the 167th anniversary of Michigan's entrance into the Union. For more information about this special event, see page 3.

2003-2004 Heritage Workshops and Special

Events Series: Building a Log Cabin

Sunday, February 1 from 1 to 3 p.m.
Michigan Historical Museum

Discover the basics of foundation piecing techniques in quilt construction as you create a hand-sewn log cabin quilt square. You'll also view log cabin quilts from the museum's collection. The fee is \$35 (includes supplies), and pre-registration is required. Call (517) 373-1905.

Abrams Genealogy Series: Great Lakes States Genealogy Resources

Saturday, February 7 at 9:30 a.m.
Forum, first floor, Library of Michigan

Part of a series of sessions, presented by the Library of Michigan, that focus on the resources available in the Abrams Foundation Historical Collection. The registration fee is \$10 per session. This session will discuss the Library of Michigan's resources and

strategies for finding ancestors from Great Lakes states. For more information call (517) 373-1300.

2003-2004 Heritage Workshops and Special

Events Series: Look What I Found in My Attic

Saturday, February 21 from 1 to 3 p.m.
Michigan Historical Museum

While spring-cleaning you've come upon grandma's wedding dress, old family photos and the like. Learn the correct techniques to preserve your cherished keepsakes. The fee is \$35 (includes supplies), and pre-registration is required. Call (517) 373-1905.

2003-2004 Heritage Workshops and Special

Events Series: Say "Yo" to Yo-Yos

Sunday, February 22 from 1 to 3 p.m.
Michigan Historical Museum

The yo-yo quilt was popular in the U.S. from the 1920s through the 1940s. Made of tiny circular pieces of fabric gathered at the edges, yo-yos can be carried with you and worked on whenever you have a free moment. The fee is \$35 (includes supplies), and pre-registration is required. Call (517) 373-1905.

2003-2004 Heritage Workshops and Special

Events Series: Tell It Like It Is

Sunday, February 22 from 1 to 3 p.m.
Michigan Historical Museum

One way civilizations pass on information from generation to generation is through storytelling. Learn how to use storytelling to remember historical information and guide you in becoming skilled in the art of storytelling. The fee is \$35 (includes supplies), and pre-registration is required. Call (517) 373-1905.

Our Mission

The Mission of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries is to enrich the quality of life for Michigan residents by providing access to information, preserving and promoting Michigan's heritage, and fostering cultural creativity. The department includes the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, the Michigan Film Office, the Michigan Historical Center and the Library of Michigan.

Handy HAL contacts

Department of History, Arts and Libraries

Dr. William Anderson, Director
702 West Kalamazoo Street
P.O. Box 30738
Lansing, MI 48909-8238
Phone:(517) 241-2236
Fax:(517) 241-2930
Meeting Rooms:(517) 373-4454

Contact us at: www.michigan.gov/hal

Michigan Historical Center

Sandra Clark, Director/State Historian
702 West Kalamazoo Street
P.O. Box 30740
Lansing, MI 48909-8240
Phone:(517) 373-6362
.....TDD (800) 827-7007
.....Fax: (517) 241-3647

Michigan Historical Center Foundation

General Information:(517) 373-2565

Michigan Historical Museum

Museum Hotline:(517) 373-3559
Group tour reservations:(517) 373-2353

Office of the State Archaeologist

General Information:(517) 373-6358

State Archives of Michigan

General Information:(517) 373-1408
Reference Desk:(517) 373-1414

Michigan History Magazine:

General Information:(517) 373-3703
Subscription Information
& Orders:(800) 366-3703

Records Management Services

General Information(517) 335-9132

State Historic Preservation Office

General Information:(517) 373-1630
Environmental Review(517) 335-2721
Michigan Historic Markers:(517) 335-2725
National Register of
Historic Places:(517) 335-2719

Michigan Council For Arts and Cultural Affairs

Betty Boone, Executive Director
702 West Kalamazoo Street
P.O. Box 30007
Lansing, MI 48909-7507
Phone:(517) 241-4011
Fax:(517) 241-3979
Email: artsinfo@michigan.gov

Michigan Film Office

Janet Lockwood, Director
702 West Kalamazoo Street
P.O. Box 30739
Lansing, MI 48909-8239
Phone:(517) 373-0638
.....or 800-477-3456
Fax:(517) 241-2930
Email: jlackwood@michigan.gov

Library of Michigan

Christie Pearson Brandau, State Librarian
702 West Kalamazoo Street
P.O. Box 30007
Lansing, MI 48909-7507
Phone:(517) 373-1580
Fax:(517) 373-4480

Library of Michigan Circulation

Public Services Circulation:(517)3731360

Library of Michigan Reference:

Public Services Reference:(517) 373-1300
Email: Librarian@michigan.gov
SBPH Lobby:(517) 373-5614
Michigan only(800) 726-7323
TDD Number:

Public Services Reference,
Services for the Blind & Physically
Handicapped(517) 373-1592

Library of Michigan Foundation

702 West Kalamazoo Street
P.O. Box 30159
Lansing, MI 48909-7659
Phone:(517) 373-1297
Fax:(517) 241-9048
Email: lmfoundation@michigan.gov

Library of Michigan State Law Library

G. Mennen Williams State Office
Building, 1st Floor
525 West Ottawa Street, Lansing
Reference Desk:(517) 373-0630
Fax:(517) 373-3915

Mackinac Island State Park Commission

Phil Porter, Director
702 West Kalamazoo Street
P.O. Box 30742
Lansing, MI 48909-8242

P.O. Box 873
Mackinaw City, MI 49701-0873

P.O. Box 370
Mackinac Island, MI 49757-0370

Winter:(517) 373-4296
Summer:(906) 847-3328
Programs:(231) 436-4100
Email: mackinacparks@michigan.gov